

Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 EB-08 TRSE-00 OMB-01 AID-05 IGA-02

DOTE-00 COME-00 OPIC-03 XMB-02 FRB-03 DHA-02

ORM-02 /094 W

-----252053Z 109875 /63

P R 251515Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY GABORONE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9693

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

USEC BRUSSELS 0054

AMEMBASSY MASERU

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GABORONE 0741

NAIROBI FOR REDSO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, BC

SUBJECT: BOT-ZAM ROAD

REF: GABORONE 0696 (NOTAL)

1. SUMMARY. VISITING REDSO ENGINEER REPORTS THAT HIS CONTACTS
IN GOB MINISTRY OF WORKS HAVE GREETED HIM SINCE HIS RETURN HERE
MARCH 24 WITH COMMENTS (SYMPATHETICALLY PRESENTED) INDICATING THAT
PAVING OF BOT-ZAM ROAD BY EDF IS REGARDED AS FAI ACCOMPLI.
REASONS FOR U.S. ACQUIESCENCE ARE SUMMITTED HEREIN ALONG WITH
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REQUEST FOR INSTRUCTIONS THAT I REPLY TO PRESIDENT KHAMA'S DEMARCHE
REFTEL BY SAYING (A) THAT U.S. UNDERSTANDS GOB DESIRE TO PROCEED
ASAP WITH EDF FUNDING OF BOT-ZAM ROAD, (B) THAT U.S. WILL FINANCE
DESIGN AND SUPERVISORY COSTS, AND (C) THAT PROVIDING STANDBY RAIL-
WAY EQUIPMENT PRESENTS SERIOUS DIFFICULTIES BUT REMAINS UNDER STUDY.
END SUMMARY.

2. REDSO ROADS ENGINEER KARIAN FOUND GOB OFFICIALS HERE
TREATING EDF FINANCING OF BOT-ZAM ROAD PAVING PROJECT AS
DECISION ALREADY MADE. AFTER REVIEWING THE SITUATION WITH HIM,
KARIAN HAS OUTLINED FACTORS PRO AND CON AND CONCLUDES OVER-
WHELMINGLY THAT EEC SHOULD FINANCE BOT-ZAM ROAD. SEVEN
PRINCIPAL REASONS ARE:

A. THE EEC (EDF) FUND IS A GRANT; AID FINANCING WAS TO BE
A LOAN.

B. EEC PROCEDURE WOULD ALLOW BIDDING FROM LOCALLY ESTABLISHED
CONTRACTORS WHO ARE SUBSIDIARIES OF EUROPEAN COMPANIES.
IN ALL PROBABILITY, THIS WILL RESULT IN SUBSTANTIAL SAVINGS IN CON-
STRUCTION COSTS FOR THE GOB.

C. THE SAVINGS FROM THE ABOVE COULD PROBABLY ALLOW THE GO
TO SELECT A HIGHER CONSTRUCTION ALTERNATIVE SUGGESTED IN TAMS
REPORT (E.G. WIDER BITUMINOUS PAVING OR POSSIBLY REDUCING THE
CROWN OF THE ROAD BY ADDING ADDITIONAL CRUSHED STONE).

D. LOCAL CONTRACTORS WILL REQUIRE MUCH SHORTER MOBILIZATION
TIME (E.G. U.S. CONTRACTOR MUST MOBILIZE FROM U.S. WHICH
COULD REQUIRE UP TO SIX MONTHS; A LOCAL CONTRACTOR COULD MOBILIZE
WITHIN ONE MONTH). DELAY OF SIX MONTHS COULD MEAN LOSS OF
ABOUT ONE-HALF INCH OF GRAVEL FROM THE SURFACE OF THE EXISTING
ROAD RESULTING IN HIGHER COST FOR REMEDIAL WORKS.

E. THE U.S. IMAGE WILL CONTINUE TO EXIST IN BOTSWANA BY THE
PRESENCE OF A U.S. CONSULTING FIRM (TAMS) WHO WILL DESIGN
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AND SUPERVISE THE CONSTRUCTION FOR GO.

F. AID HAS SET ASIDE (IN THE C.P.) ABOUT \$5 MILLION IN FY 1977
FOR THIS PROJECT. TO KARIAN'S KNOWLEDGE, THERE WAS NO GUARANTEE
THAT AID WOULD PROVIDE THE TOTAL NEEDED FUNDS TO UPGRADE THIS
ROAD.

G. ANY FUNDS THAT MAY HAVE BEEN AVAILABLE FOR PAVING THIS
ROAD COULD EASILY BE DIRECTED TO OTHER PROJECTS IN BOTSWANA.

3. ACTION REQUESTED: IN VIEW OF THE ABOVE, REQUEST THAT I BE
PROMPTLY PERMITTED TO REPLY TO PRESIDENT KHAMA THAT U.S.
UNDERSTANDS GOB DESIRE TO PROCEED ASAP WITH PAVING OF BOT-
ZAM ROAD USING EDF FUNDS, THAT U.S. WILL MAKE AVAILABLE
SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION AND FINANCE DESIGN AND SUPERVISORY
COSTS, AND THAT PROPOSED DIVERSION OF POSSIBLE U.S. FUNDS TO
FINANCING STANDBY RAILWAY EQUIPMENT PRESENTS SERIOUS DIFFICULTIES
BUT IS UNDER STUDY.

NORLAND

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE, CONSTRUCTION, DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS, HIGHWAYS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 25-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977GABOR000741
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770103-0439
Format: TEL
From: GABORONE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770323/aaaaatkg.tel
Line Count: 116
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: ae8d61b2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 GABORONE 696
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3000014
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BOT-ZAM ROAD
TAGS: EAID, ECRE, BC, EDF
To: STATE NAIROBI
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/ae8d61b2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
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22 May 2009
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